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October 2, 2020

Litigation + Business

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

The Honorable Jocelyn Boyd Chief Clerk / Executive Director Public Service Commission of South Carolina 101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100 Columbia, SC 29210

Re: Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC for Approval of New Cost

Recovery Mechanism and Portfolio of Demand-Side Management and Energy

Efficiency Programs Docket No. 2015-163-E

REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED APPROVAL OF MODIFICATIONS TO THE BRING

YOUR OWN THERMOSTATE PROGRAM

Dear Ms. Boyd:

Duke Energy Progress, LLC (the "Company") seeks expedited Commission consideration and approval of certain modifications to its Bring Your Own Thermostat program ("BYOT Program"). As explained below, the modifications would add a winter component to the BYOT Program. The modifications would also provide an increased incentive for initial enrollees to attract customers to the BYOT program ahead of the 2020-2021 winter season and to provide financial assistance to residential customers who may be struggling due to the COVID-19 pandemic and potentially serve as a means to help customers that are behind on their electric bills.

The BYOT Program is administered through the "RESIDENTIAL SERVICE - LOAD CONTROL, RIDER LC-SUM-6" tariff on file with the Commission which was originally included as part of the Company's initial suite of demand side management and energy efficiency ("EE/DSM") programs approved by Order No. 2009-374 in Docket No. 2009-190-E and was then referred to as the Residential Service Load Control program. This program enabled residential customers to receive a credit in exchange for allowing the Company to interrupt service to their central air conditioning systems during times of peak summer demand. The BYOT Program, approved in Order No. 2018-181, permitted the Company to add eligible thermostats and incentives to the program, and permitted the Company to offer the payment of incentives through various methods.

The Company now seeks to modify the BYOT Program to provide for the addition of a winter-focused load control component and to suspend new enrollments in the existing summer-only smart thermostat option after December 31, 2020. The

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Company is requesting these modifications in recognition of the increased need for load control and peak demand reductions during the winter. The new component is "winter-focused" because, while the tariff contemplates that a majority of the Company's load interruption events will occur during the winter season, the BYOT Program will continue to permit the Company to interrupt service to cooling systems during summer months.

To acquire customers for the 2020-2021 winter season and to provide assistance to customers struggling as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Company is also proposing that winter participants receive an initial program incentive of \$90 through December 31, 2020. After that date, new participants will receive an initial program incentive of \$75. The incentive will be provided to customers in the form of an electronic debit card that can be used for bill payments or other purchases.

The program modifications are estimated to produce the cost effectiveness scores provided in the following table:

Cost Effectiveness Test	Anticipated Cost
	Effectiveness Results
Utility Cost Test (UCT)	1.32
Total Resource Cost Test (TRC)	2.08
Rate Impact Measure Test (RIM)	1.32
Participant Test	NA

Clean and redlined versions of the tariff are attached hereto as Exhibits A and B. respectively. The tariff modifications also include standard tax and fee language and standard language permitting the Company to retain program benefits. See Order No. 2016-872 at 4, Docket No. 2013-298-E (Dec. 20, 2016); Order No. 2016-873 at 4, Docket No. 2015-163-E (Dec. 20, 2016). Upon Commission approval of these program modifications, the Company would file a compliance tariff with the Commission's E-Tariff System and continue to recover program costs through the Company's energy efficiency and demand side management ("EE/DSM") rates in accordance with the approved EE/DSM cost recovery mechanism.

Upon approval of the program by the Commission, the Company will make the modified BYOT Program available to its customers in South Carolina as soon as reasonably possible. The Company appreciates the Commission's expedited consideration of these program changes, which will not only improve this EE/DSM program but also provide a unique opportunity for the Company to provide assistance to residential customers during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.



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Kind regards,

Sam Wellborn

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Enclosure

c w/enc: Parties of Record (via email)

> Heather Shirley Smith, Deputy General Counsel (via email) Rebecca J. Dulin, Associate General Counsel (via email)

Katie M. Brown, Counsel (via email)

Exhibit A Rider LC-7 Supersedes Rider LC-SUM-6

RESIDENTIAL SERVICE - LOAD CONTROL RIDER LC-7

AVAILABILITY

Available to individually metered residential customers receiving concurrent service from the Company on Schedule RES or R-TOUD. Participating Customers may choose to employ (1) Company-provided Load Control Device(s) or (2) eligible Customer-owned thermostat(s) to interrupt service to each installed, approved electric central air conditioning unit(s) and/or approved electric heat pump(s) used for cooling, and/or approved electric heating source employing primary or backup electric resistance heating elements. Company shall be allowed to monitor their operation under the provisions of this Rider.

Customer choosing to employ Company-provided Load Control Device(s) contracts for Company or its representative to install and operate the necessary control equipment in a location provided by Customer and suitable to Company in or about the residential dwelling unit. This option is only available where Company has the necessary communications equipment installed and where load control signal can be satisfactorily received at Company's specified location on Customer's residence.

Customers choosing to employ their own eligible thermostat(s), listed on the Company's website, must have the thermostat(s) configured in a manner which allows the Company to remotely communicate and control Customer's equipment.

Company shall be allowed to monitor Customer's load or any part thereof and the operation of controlled appliances, at no charge, to Customer under the provisions of this Rider. To participate in the program, Customer must either own and occupy the residence or occupy and provide Company with owner-consent.

Summer-Only thermostat-based enrollments are suspended on December 31, 2020 and on-going participation will be limited to participants in place on December 31, 2020. Winter-Focused participants must have thermostat control of approved central air conditioning and central heating units.

Switch-based participants cannot participate in thermostat-based program options and thermostat-based participants cannot participate in both Summer-Only and Winter-Focused options.

PARTICIPATION INCENTIVES

Customer shall receive an Initial Incentive Payment following the successful installation and testing of the Load Control Device(s) or participating Customer's thermostat(s). Following each twelve months of continuous participation on the program Customer shall receive an additional Annual Incentive. Customer leaving the program may return anytime to the program but shall not receive the Initial Incentive Payment and must complete a twelve-month continuous participation on the program to receive an additional Annual Incentive.

PAYMENT OF INCENTIVES

The Company's payment of Incentives, at its discretion, may be offered in a variety of ways, including, but not limited to, bill credits, checks, and prepaid credit cards as follows:

Initial Incentive

- For Participants with Company-provided HVAC Load Control Device(s) One Time \$25 per residence
- For Winter-Focused Participants with Customer-provided eligible Thermostat(s) One Time \$90 per residence through December 31, 2020 and One Time \$75 per residence thereafter
- For Summer-Only Participants with Customer-provided eligible Thermostat(s) One Time \$75 per residence

Annual Incentive

- Qualified Summer-Only Cooling System Controls \$25 per residence
- Qualified Winter-Focused System Controls \$25 per residence

APPROVED CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING UNIT

An approved electric central air conditioning and/or electric heat pump unit is a central electric air conditioning unit used to cool the residence through a ducted system. All central air conditioning and/or electric heat pump units installed at the residence must participate in load control in order to receive the Annual Incentive.

APPROVED CENTRAL HEATING UNIT

An approved electric central heating unit is a heating unit employing electric resistance heating elements, including air source heat pumps equipped with backup electric resistance heating elements, used to heat the residence through a ducted system. All heating units installed at the residence must participate in load control in order to receive the Annual Incentive.

INTERRUPTION

Summer-Only Participants

Company shall be allowed, at its discretion, to interrupt service to each air conditioner for up to four hours during each day of the summer control season months of May through September. Company reserves the right for longer interruption in the event continuity of service is threatened. Air conditioner interruptions shall be limited to a total of 60 hours during any one summer season.

Winter-Focused Participants

Company shall be allowed, at its discretion, to interrupt service to each heating system for up to four hours during each day of the winter control season months of December through March. Company reserves the right for longer interruption in the event continuity of service is threatened. Heating unit interruptions shall be limited to a total of 45 hours during any one winter season. Interruption of heating and/or cooling systems for the remainder of the year are limited to a total of 15 hours.

All Participants

At its discretion, the Company may preheat or precool the customers equipment prior to interruption period. The Company reserves the right to test the load control equipment at any time, and such test periods shall be counted towards the maximum hourly interruption limit. Customer shall have the option to override a control event, however, if Customer exceeds two (2) control event overrides in a single winter or summer season, Customer may be subject to removal from the program and shall forfeit the next subsequent Annual Incentive for that season. A control event override is defined as Customer requesting exemption from part or whole of the interruption time period. If Company is unable to communicate with Customer's thermostat(s) during a load control event, it will be counted as a control event override.

EQUIPMENT INSPECTION AND SERVICING

For Company-provided Load Control Device(s), the Company or its agents shall have the right of ingress and egress to Customer's premises at all reasonable hours for the purpose of inspecting Company's wiring and apparatus; changing, exchanging, or repairing its property, as necessary; or removing its property after termination of service. Company and Customer shall schedule a convenient time for such purposes whenever it is necessary to service Company's equipment installed inside the residence. If any tampering with Company-owned equipment occurs, Company may adjust the billing and take other action in

Duke Energy Progress, LLC (South Carolina Only)

Exhibit A Rider LC-7 Supersedes Rider LC-SUM-6

accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina and the laws of the State of South Carolina as applicable to meter tampering.

SALES AND FRANCHISE TAX OR PAYMENT IN LIEU THEREOF

To the above charges will be added any applicable South Carolina sales tax, and for those customers within any municipal or other local governmental jurisdiction, an appropriate amount to reflect any franchise fee, business license tax, or similar percentage fee or tax, or charge in lieu thereof imposed by such entity.

CONTRACT PERIOD

The Contract Period shall not be less than one year. Customer or Company may terminate participation under the Rider by providing 30 days prior notice to the other party. If within the first year, the Customer wishes to discontinue participation in this Program, the Customers using Company provided Load Control Device(s) will pay a \$25 service charge and Customers who have received initial thermostat-based incentive will pay a \$75 service charge. Upon termination, the load control device(s) at the Customer's residence will be remotely disabled to prevent further load control but will only be removed upon request by Customer.

COMPANY RETENTION OF PROGRAM BENEFITS

Incentives and other considerations offered under the terms of this Program are understood to be an essential element in the recipient's decision to participate in the Program. Upon payment of these considerations, Company will be entitled to any and all environmental, energy efficiency, and demand reduction benefits and attributes, including all reporting and compliance rights, associated with participation in the Program.

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RESIDENTIAL SERVICE - LOAD CONTROL RIDER LC-<u>SUM-67</u>

AVAILABILITY

This Rider is available in conjunction with all Available to individually metered residential service schedulescustomers receiving concurrent service from the Company on Schedule RES or R-TOUD. Participating Customers may choose to employ (1) Company-provided Load Control Device(s) or (2) eligible Customer-owned thermostat(s) to interrupt service to each installed, approved electric central air conditioning unit(s) and/or approved electric heat pump(s) used for cooling, and/or approved electric heating source employing primary or backup electric resistance heating elements. Company shall be allowed and to monitor their operation under the provisions of this Rider.

Customer choosing to employ Company-provided Load Control Device(s)_contracts for Company or its representative to install and operate the necessary control equipment in a location provided by Customer and suitable to Company in or about the residential dwelling unit. This option is only available where Company has the necessary communications equipment installed and where load control signal can be satisfactorily received at Company's specified location on Customer's residence.

Customers choosing to employ their own eligible thermostat(s), listed on the Company's website, must have the thermostat(s) configured in a manner which allows the Company to remotely communicate and control Customer's equipment.

Company shall be allowed to monitor Customer's load or any part thereof and the operation of controlled appliances, at no charge, to Customer under the provisions of this Rider. To participate in the program, Customer must either own and occupy the residence or occupy and provide Company with owner-consent.

Summer-Only thermostat-based enrollments are suspended on December 31, 2020 and on-going participation will be limited to participants in place on December 31, 2020. Winter-Focused participants must have thermostat control of approved central air conditioning and central heating units.

Switch-based participants cannot participate in thermostat-based program options and thermostat-based participants cannot participate in both Summer-Only and Winter-Focused options.

PARTICIPATION INCENTIVES

Customer shall receive an Initial Incentive Payment following the successful installation and testing of the Load Control Device(s) or participating Customer's thermostat(s). Following each twelve months of continuous participation on the program Customer shall receive an additional Annual Incentive. Customer leaving the program may return anytime to the program, butprogram but shall not receive the Initial Incentive Payment and must complete a twelve month twelve-month continuous participation on the program to receive an additional Annual Incentive.

REFERRAL INCENTIVE

A participating Customer shall receive a \$25 Incentive for each new program participant that provides a referral code and successfully enrolls in Rider LC SUM. Successful enrollment shall include installation of the necessary control equipment in or about the new Customer's residential dwelling unit, to interrupt service to each installed, approved electric central air conditioning unit and/or electric heat pump. The maximum referral Incentive available to any participating Customer shall not exceed \$100 (or four referrals) per calendar year. The participating Customer will be provided the referral Incentive within 30 days of successful installation at the new Customer's premise. Company will verify and track referrals by unique referral codes provided to participating Customers. New Customers will be required to provide a referral code at the time of enrollment.

Exhibit B
Rider LC-SUM-67
Supersedes Rider LC-SUM-486

PAYMENT OF INCENTIVES

The Company's payment of Incentives, at its discretion, may be offered in a variety of ways, including, but not limited to, bill credits, checks, and prepaid credit cards as follows:

Initial Incentive

- Initial Incentive for Company provided Load Control Device(s) For Participants with Company provided HVAC Load Control Device(s) One Time \$25 per residence
- Initial Incentive for Customer provided eligible Thermostat(s) For Winter-Focused Participants with
 Customer-provided eligible Thermostat(s) One Time \$90 per residence through December 31,
 2020 and One Time —\$75 per residence thereafter
- For Summer-Only Participants with Customer-provided eligible Thermostat(s) One Time \$75 per residence
- Annual Incentive for Company-provided Load Control Device(s) \$25 per residence
- Annual Incentive for Customer-provided eligible Thermostat(s) \$25 per residence

Annual Incentive

- Qualified Summer-Only Cooling System Controls \$25 per residence
- Qualified Winter-Focused System Controls \$25 per residence

APPROVED CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING UNIT

An approved electric central air conditioning and/or electric heat pump unit is a central electric air conditioning unit used to cool the residence through a ducted system. All central air conditioning and/or electric heat pump units installed at the residence must participate in load control in order to receive the Annual Incentive.

APPROVED CENTRAL HEATING UNIT

An approved electric central heating unit is a heating unit employing electric resistance heating elements, including air source heat pumps equipped with backup electric resistance heating elements, used to heat the residence through a ducted system. All heating units installed at the residence must participate in load control in order to receive the Annual Incentive.

INTERRUPTION

Summer-Only Participants

Company shall be allowed, at its discretion, to interrupt service to each air conditioner for up to four hours during each day of the summer control season months of May through September. Company reserves the right for longer interruption in the event continuity of service is threatened. Air conditioner interruptions shall be limited to a total of 60 hours during any one summer season.

Winter-Focused Participants

Company shall be allowed, at its discretion, to interrupt service to each heating system for up to four hours during each day of the winter control season months of December through March. Company reserves the right for longer interruption in the event continuity of service is threatened. Heating unit interruptions shall be limited to a total of 45 hours during any one winter season. Interruption of heating and/or cooling systems for the remainder of the year are limited to a total of 15 hours.

All Participants

Exhibit B
Rider LC-<u>SUM-67</u>
Supersedes Rider LC-SUM-4<u>B6</u>

At its discretion, the Company may preheat or precool the customers equipment prior to interruption period. The Company reserves the right to test the load control equipment at any time, and such test periods shall be counted towards the maximum hourly interruption limit. Customer shall have the option to override an air conditioner based a control event, however, if Customer exceeds two (2) control event overrides in a single control winter or summer season of May through September, Customer may be subject to removal from the program and shall forfeit the next subsequent Annual Incentive for that controlled devicescason. A control event override is defined as Customer requesting exemption from part or whole of the interruption time period. If Company is unable to communicate with Customer's thermostat(s) during a load control event, it will be counted as a control event override.

EQUIPMENT INSPECTION AND SERVICING

For Company-provided Load Control Device(s), the Company or its agents shall have the right of ingress and egress to Customer's premises at all reasonable hours for the purpose of inspecting Company's wiring and apparatus; changing, exchanging, or repairing its property, as necessary; or removing its property after termination of service. Company and Customer shall schedule a convenient time for such purposes whenever it is necessary to service Company's equipment installed inside the residence. If any tampering with Company-owned equipment occurs, Company may adjust the billing and take other action in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina and the laws of the State of South Carolina as applicable to meter tampering.

SALES AND FRANCHISE TAX OR PAYMENT IN LIEU THEREOF

To the above charges will be added any applicable South Carolina sales tax, and for those customers within any municipal or other local governmental jurisdiction, an appropriate amount to reflect any franchise fee, business license tax, or similar percentage fee or tax, or charge in lieu thereof imposed by such entity.

CONTRACT PERIOD

The Contract Period shall not be less than one year. Customer or Company may terminate participation under the Rider by providing 30 days prior notice to the other party. If within the first year, the Customer wishes to discontinue participation in this Program, the Customers using Company provided Load Control Device(s) will pay a \$25 service charge and Customers who have received initial thermostat based incentive will pay a \$75 service charge. Upon termination, the load control device(s) at the Customer's residence will be remotely disabled to prevent further load control but will only be removed upon request by Customer.

COMPANY RETENTION OF PROGRAM BENEFITS

Incentives and other considerations offered under the terms of this Program are understood to be an essential element in the recipient's decision to participate in the Program. Upon payment of these considerations, Company will be entitled to any and all environmental, energy efficiency, and demand reduction benefits and attributes, including all reporting and compliance rights, associated with participation in the Program.